

Mr. W. L. SCLATER sent the following descriptions of new Hawks :—

Spizaetus nipalensis fokiensis, subsp. nov.

Resembling *S. n. nipalensis*, but smaller and lacking the two long crest-feathers present (in every case examined) in *S. n. nipalensis*.

Type. A male from Fokien Province, Southern China, collected 8.5.1903 by Mr. C. B. Rickett's native collector. B.M. Reg. No. 1905.12.24.951.

Dimensions of the type. Wing 419 mm, tail 280, tarsus 100. Ten specimens examined from the Provinces of Fokien and Anhwei or Nganhwei; the wings of the males from 419 to 425 mm., and of the female 445, against an average in the Himalayan typical species of—males 450 and females 485.

Spilornis cheela ricketti, subsp. nov.

Resembling *S. c. cheela*, but with the upper parts somewhat paler ashy-brown with a purplish gloss, below dusty-ashy; transverse banding on the breast indistinct, often not noticeable; throat never black, but like the breast; cheeks and ear-coverts grey, not black; slightly smaller wings, measuring from 430 to 470 mm.; average 460.

Type. A male from Yamakan, about 1500 ft. elevation, Fokien Province, South China, obtained by Mr. C. B. Rickett in December 1898 (see 'Ibis,' 1900, pp. 52, 57). B.M. Reg. No. 92.8.5.424.

Dimensions of type. Wing 460 mm., tail 290, tarsus 90.

Distribution. Fokien and Nganhwei Provinces of southern China, extending apparently to the Chindwi District of Upper Burma.

Spilornis cheela kinabaluensis, subsp. nov.

Resembling *S. c. bido* of Java, but with more white on the underside of the wing-quills and the black not so well defined; a rich umber-brown nape-band formed by the tips of the black crest-feathers on the lower edge of the crest, having conspicuous tips of that colour; tail-band broader

and a purer white, not merely pale brown as in *S. c. bido*; throat quite black.

The distinctness of this form from that found in the low country of Borneo was recognised by Sharpe, who ('Ibis,' 1889, p. 71) identified it with the Javan *S. c. bido*, but in my opinion it should certainly be regarded as worthy of subspecific differentiation.

Type from Mt. Kinabalu, Borneo, obtained November 1892 by Mr. A. H. Everitt. Wing 370 mm. B.M. Reg. No. 93.6.22.1.

There are two other examples in the Museum—males from the neighbouring Mt. Dulit at 4000 to 5000 ft.

Spilornis cheela palawanensis, subsp. nov.

Perhaps closest to the Andaman race (*P. c. davidsoni*), but distinguished by the richness of its colouring and its breast being marked with narrow transverse bands of dusky and rufous brown—these bands often extending on to the throat. In this respect entirely different from the Borneo and Philippine birds. The spots on the lower breast and abdomen are large, conspicuous, and white. Wing 380–410 mm., average 390.

Everitt ('Ibis,' 1895, p. 31) provisionally identified the Palawan Serpent-Eagle with the Andamanese form (*S. c. davidsoni*). I pointed out its peculiarities.

Type. A female from Palawan, collected by A. H. Everitt, February 1894. B.M. Reg. No. 921.7.4.14. Wing 410 mm. Six examples from Palawan and one from Balabac examined.

The following is a synopsis of the species and subspecies of the genus *Spilornis*:—

Genus SPILORNIS.

Spilornis G. R. Gray, List Gen. Bds. 1st ed. 1840, p. 3.

Type by original designation, *S. bacha* (Daud.).

Spilornis cheela.

(a) *Spilornis cheela cheela*.

Fulco cheela Latham, Ind. Orn. i. 1790, p. 14: India, *i. e.* Lucknow, W. L. S.

Distribution. The Himalaya from Kashmir to Assam; in winter to the plains of northern India, occasionally south to Mysore and the Nilgiris.

(b) *Spilornis cheela albidus.*

Falco albidus Temminck, Pl. Col. 4th livr. pl. 19, 1824: Pondicherry.

Distribution. Peninsular India, occasionally to the plains of northern India.

(c) *Spilornis cheela spilogaster.*

Hematornis spilogaster Blyth, J. A. S. B. xxi. 1852, p. 351: Ceylon.

Distribution. Ceylon.

(d) *Spilornis cheela davisoni.*

Spilornis davisoni Hume, Stray Feathers, i. 1873, p. 307: South Andamans.

Distribution. Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

(e) *Spilornis cheela ricketti.*

Spilornis cheela ricketti Sclater, *supra*.

(f) *Spilornis cheela hoya.*

Spilornis hoya Swinhoe, Ibis, 1866, p. 304: Formosa.

Distribution. Formosa.

(g) *Spilornis cheela rutherfordi.*

Spilornis rutherfordi Swinhoe, Ibis, 1870, p. 85: Central Hainan.

Distribution. Assam, most of Burma and Siam to Hainan.

(h) *Spilornis cheela bacha.* = *bassus*

Falco bacha Daudin, *Traité*, ii. 1800, p. 43: South Africa, *ex* Levaillant *errore*, Sumatra *apud* W. L. S.

Distribution. The Malay Peninsula, extending to southern Tenasserim; also Sumatra.

(i) *Spilornis cheela bido.*

Falco bido Horsfield, *Trans. Linn. Soc. Lond.* xiii. 1822, p. 137: Java.

Distribution. Java.

(j) *Spilornis cheela pallidus*.*Spilornis pallidus* Walden, Ibis, 1872, p. 363: Sarawak.*Distribution*. The low country of Borneo.(k) *Spilornis cheela kinabaluensis*.*Spilornis cheela kinabaluensis* Selater, *supra*.(l) *Spilornis cheela palawanensis*.*Spilornis cheela palawanensis* Selater *supra*.* (m) *Spilornis cheela salvadorii*.*Spilornis salvadorii* Berlepsch, Nov. Zool. ii. 1895, p. 73: Nias Island.*Distribution*. Island of Nias, off south-western coast of Sumatra.* (n) *Spilornis cheela abbotti*.*Spilornis abbotti* Richmond, P. U. S. Nat. Mus. xvi. 1903, p. 492: Simabur I.*Distribution*. Island of Simabur, off the south-western coast of Sumatra.*Spilornis elgini*.*Hematornis elgini* Tytler in Blyth, J. A. S. B. xxxii. 1863, p. 87: South Andaman.*Distribution*. Andaman Islands.*Spilornis minimus*.*Spilornis minimus* Hume, Stray Feathers, i. 1873, p. 464: Camorta, Nicobar Islands.*Distribution*. The northern group of the Nicobars—Camorta, Trinkat, Nancoury, and Katschall.* *Spilornis klossi*.*Spilornis klossi* Richmond, P. U. S. Nat. Mus. xxv. 1902, p. 304: Great Nicobar Island.*Distribution*. Great Nicobar Island, and probably the other islands of the southern group of the Nicobars.

* Not represented in the Collections of the British Museum.

Spilornis rufipectus.(a) *Spilornis rufipectus rufipectus.**Spilornis rufipectus* Gould, P. Z. S. 1857, p. 222: Macassar.*Distribution.* Celebes, north and south.(b) *Spilornis rufipectus sulaensis.**Circaetus sulaensis* Schlegel, Vog. Ned. Ind. Monogr. 3. Volkvog. 1866, p. 38: Sula Island.*Distribution.* Sula Island, off the east coast of Celebes.(c) *Spilornis rufipectus raja.**Spilornis raja* Sharpe, Bull. B. O. C. i. 1893, p. lv: Kuching, Sarawak.*Distribution.* Sarawak, Borneo.* *Spilornis asturinus.**Spilornis asturinus* Meyer, SB. Nat. Ges. Isis, Dresden, Abhandl. 1884, p. 13: patr. ignot.*Spilornis holospilus.*(a) *Spilornis holospilus holospilus.**Buteo holospilus* Vigors, P. Z. S. 1831, p. 96: near Manilla.*Distribution.* The Philippine Islands from Luzon to Mindanao, but not the eastern islands, Panay and Negros.(b) *Spilornis holospilus panayensis.**Spilornis panayensis* Steere, List Bds. Mamm. Philippines, 1890, p. 7: Panay.*Distribution.* Panay, Guimaras, and Negros, Philippine group.*Pernis celebensis steerei*, subsp. nov.

• Resembling *P. c. celebensis*, but with a long crest composed of one or two elongated feathers, usually measuring about 2.5 inches and coloured black with white bases. As a rule, not so richly coloured as *P. c. celebensis*, the transverse banding on the belly and under tail-coverts brown and white, not black and white, and the black on the under wing-coverts also paler. Crown of the head black or black

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mingled with tawny or whitish in young birds, the characteristic blue-grey of the head of the Indian species being confined to the sides of the face.

Type. A male from San Antonio, Negros, Philippine Islands, collected by Prof. J. B. Steere 17.2.88. B.M. Reg. No. 96.4.15.40.

Measurements of type. Wing 364 mm., tail 263, tarsus 45, bill with cere measured round the curve 35, crest-feathers about 55.

Other examples from Samar, Mindanao, and Basilan closely resemble the type; their wings measure:—Samar (*Whitehead*) 345 mm. [worn], Mindanao ♂ (*Goodfellow*) 380, Basilan ♀ (*Steere*) 383.

Three other examples from Luzon (*Whitehead*) appear to be younger birds, and have no, or but little, trace of the transverse banding of the lower surface. Their wings measure 365, 370, and 390 mm. respectively.

With regard to the Indian Honey-Buzzard with the very short crest, which has been separated by Mr. Ogilvie-Grant ('Ibis,' 1913, p. 279) from the long-crested Malay form under the name *Pernis ellioti* Jerdon, 1839, there appears to be an older name applicable. This is *Pernis ruficollis* Lesson, *Traité*, 1831, p. 76; type-locality Bengal (*cf.* Pucheran, *Rev. Mag. Zool.* 1850, p. 212), and figured by Des Murs (*Iconogr. Orn. pl.* 14) for the type in the Paris Museum.

The Indian Short-crested Honey-Buzzard should be known therefore as *Pernis cristatus ruficollis* Lesson.

Mr. C. CHUBB sent the following notes on new forms of South and Central American birds:—

The following notes are based on material which has hitherto been recognised as one species, *Legatus albicollis*. This species was originally described by Vieillot in 1819 from Paraguay and the majority of authors since that date have thought that its distribution extended through Central America to Mexico.